

Service Date: July 28, 1987

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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I N THE MATTER Of the application	)	UTILITY DIVISION
Of BLACK HILLS CORPORATION d/b/a	)	DOCKET NO. 87.7.34
BLACK HILLS POWER & LIGHT CO.,	)	DEFAULT ORDER NO. 5278
For Authority to Increase Their	)	
Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider.	)	

On July 6, 1987, Black Hills Corporation d/b/a Black hills Power and Light Company (BHP&L or Applicant) filed a petition with the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to Sections 69-3-101 et seq., MCA, for an order authorizing the Applicant to increase its electric rates in order to reflect the increased cost of fuel used in the generation of electricity. The fuel costs concerned are for the months of March, April and May 1987.

On July 7, 1987, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity For Public Hearing. A provision in that notice stated, "If, however, no hearing is requested by July 26, 1987, the Commission will consider the matter and a default order may be issued."

Having considered the application and the documentation furnished by the Applicant in support of its application and deeming itself fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following Findings and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. If increased fuel costs for the months of March, April and May 1987, are to be recovered, a charge of \$.00277 must be added to the base fuel cost of \$.01240 approved in Docket No. 83.4.2, which results in a total fuel charge of \$.01517 per KWH.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over parties And proceeding in this matter.
2. The resulting rate levels are reasonable and just.

### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Quarterly Fuel Rate Rider for the billing period of August, September and October, 1987, is \$.00277 per KWH. This charge shall be added to the base fuel cost approved in Docket No. 83.4.25.
2. The approved rates shall be effective for electric service rendered on and after August 1, 1987.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana on the 27th day of July 1987, by a  
5 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

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HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

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TOM MONAHAN, Commissioner

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DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

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JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell  
Commission Secretary  
(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.